REMARKS

In the Office Action dated January 31, 2003, the Examiner rejected Claims 1 through 6 and 9 through 11 as being anticipated by Ricard (U.S. Patent No. 4,731,706), and Claims 7 and 8 as being obvious over Ricard in view of Dobler et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,567,035). In response, the Applicant has canceled Claims 1 through 11 in favor of new Claims 12 through 14. Applicant believes that Claims 12 through 14 more clearly define the present invention, thereby clearly distinguishing it from the prior art.

Both the Ricard and Dobler et al. patents disclose adjustable head lamps designed to be permanently incorporated into the chassis or carriage of an automobile. The present invention is intended as a lighting device that is mountable. For example, in one embodiment, the present invention is mounted on to a rifle or carbine to facilitate nighttime hunting. The knobs that adjust the direction of the light beam are located on the rear of the light device housing so that it is readily accessible to a hunter while aiming his weapon.

In contrast, the devices disclosed the Ricard and Dobler et al. patents may not be adjustable while the vehicle is in use. Furthermore, they are not readily accessible, but are found in hard to reach places on the automobile. Those skilled in the art will appreciate even the best built rotational devices will occasionally fall out of alignment when jarred roughly. Ready access of the adjustment knobs to the operator allows for rapid realignment of the light beam. This is especially important when hunting at night.

As set forth in new Claim 12, the first and second knobs are attached to the back housing.

The present invention may also be utilized while mounted on other devices. For example, the present invention is intended to be able to be used on transportation devices, such as automobiles

and boats. The device may be mounted relatively close to the seat or position from which the vehicle is operated. In this fashion, adjustment of the light beam may be done simultaneously with the operation of the vehicle. It is also possible to mount it to other objects, such as walls, posts, or other structures. The mounting bracket allows it to be readily attached and removed on any of a variety of devices. The cited prior art is permanently attached to an automobile and would not function properly when used in conjunction with a gun.

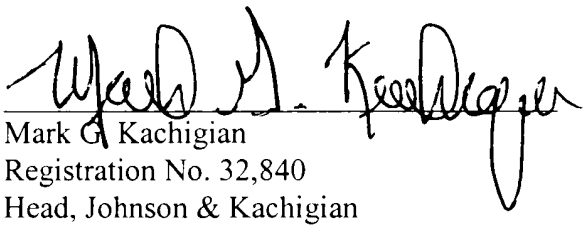
As set forth in Claim 12, the device includes a mounting bracket extending from the housing.

Another distinction between the present invention and the prior art is that the present invention requires substantially fewer parts that are sturdy and less delicate than those disclosed in the prior art. The prior art requires several small pieces which must interact. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that more parts in a device greatly increases the chances that the device will break and fail. The present invention requires very few moving parts. In addition, none of these parts are thin or delicate. This means that they are sturdy and especially suitable for rugged use, such as hunting in the woods. The cited prior art discloses several relatively small interacting and moving parts. When subjected to the rough treatment that occurs when hunting in the nighttime, these devices are highly likely to fail. The present invention, on the other hand, easily withstands harsh treatment. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that this difference may be likened to the difference between a sniper rifle and an AK47. To clarify this, Applicant has written Claim 12 to disclose a minimal number of parts. One of the ways in which this is accomplished is by combining the two perpendicular pivoting actions within a single moving part of the device. The pivot mechanism facilitates the rotation on both axis. The cited prior art, on the other hand, requires separate mechanisms for each axis of rotation.

Yet another feature of the present invention that makes it superior to the prior art is described in Claim 13. Because the present invention is designed to be very transportable and readily detached from one object and attached to another, it is designed to accommodate a power source, such as batteries, within the housing itself. The prior discloses housings that are unsuitable for the incorporation of internal batteries. This is not only because there is not enough room, but also because it would be extremely difficult to replace batteries within the housing of a light fixture incorporated into the body of an automobile.

For all the foregoing reasons above, it is believed that the application is now in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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